

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /059 W

----- 021190

R 151140Z JUL 76

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2800

AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USEC BRUSSELS

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E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GW, EEC

SUBJECT: BERLIN PARTICIPATION IN DIRECT ELECTIONS
TO EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1. EODEYEX RESPONDED POSTIVELY TO EC HEADS
OF STATE DECISION JULY 12 ON DIRECT PARLIAMENTARY
ELECTIONS. COMMENT ON SPECIAL BERLIN ASPECT HAS THUS
FAR BEEN FAIRLY SPARSE. MOST PAPERS HAVE NOTED MERELY
THAT" COMPETENT CIRCLES" IN BONN HAVE CONFIRMED
THAT ALLIES HAVE DETERMINED THAT DIRECT ELECTION OF
BERLIN DEPUTIES NOT POSSIBLE AND THAT PROCEDURE WOULD
HAVE TO BE FOLLOWED SIMILAR TO THAT BY WHICH BERLIN
REPRESENTATIVES ARE SELECTED FOR BUNDESTAG. PAPERS
USUALLY BRACKET THIS WITH REASSURING COMMENT TO EFFECT
THAT CONTINUED BERLIN REPRESENTATION IN NEW EC PARLIAMENT
IS CERTAIN SINCE VARIOUS COMMUNITY TREATIES HAVE ALL
BEEN APPLIED TO CITY.

2. ONLY SUBSTANTIAL COMMENTARY WE HAVE SEEN THUS FAR
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IS IN MORGENPOST ANALYSIS BY LOTHAR TOENSHOFF WHO

PRAISES BOTH FRG GOVERNMENTAL AND OPPOSITION PARTIES
FOR STATESMANLIKE ATTITUDES THAT MADE HEADS OF STATE
DECISION POSSIBLE BUT ADDS:
BEGIN TEXT:
BERLIN HOWEVER WAS NOT SPARED A BIT OF
WORMWOOD BY THIS DECISION FOR EUROPE. INTENSIVE CON-
SULTATIONS WITH THE PROTECTING POWERS HAVE RESULTED IN
A DECISION THAT BERLIN CANNOT ELECT ITS FUTURE EUROPEAN
REPRESENTATIVES DIRECTLY. RESPECT MUST BE GIVEN TO
THESE WESTERN RESERVATIONS ALTHOUGH THE QUADRIPARTITE
AGREEMENT PROVIDES NO LEGAL BASIS AT ALL FOR SUCH AN
EXCLUSION OF BERLIN WHICH AS IS KNOWN COUNTS AS PART OF
THE TERRITORY OF THE COMMUNITY. A COMPROMISE SUGGESTION
WHEREBY THE EUROPEAN DEPUTIES FROM BERLIN WOULD IN FACT
BE SELECTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ELECTORAL PROCEDURE
FOR THE BUNDESTAG BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BUT
WOULD BE SENT BY THE BUNDESTAG ALSO COULD NOT BE
REALIZED. OBVIOUSLY ALL CONCEIVABLE COMPLICATIONS
ARE TO BE AVOIDED DURING AN ELECTION YEAR IN THE
UNITED STATES AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC. LEGALLY AND
FACTUALLY, HOWEVER, NOTHING AT ALL CHANGES FOR WEST
BERLIN'S PARTICIPATION IN THE EC AS A RESULT OF THIS
INDIRECT ELECTORAL PROCEDURE. BERLIN ALSO WILL PROFIT
FROM A DYNAMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMUNITY.
END TEXT.

3. AT THE FRENCH JULY 14 RECEPTION, SOVIET EMBASSY
OFFICER TYUTYUNOV RAISED THE REPORTED EC DECISION OF
JULY 12 WITH MISSION OFFICERS IN AN INFORMAL WAY. HE
SAID THAT BERLIN'S ECONOMIC PARTICIPATION IN THE EC
WAS ACCEPTABLE, BUT THAT ITS TAKING PART IN THE EC
POLITICAL PROCESS WOULD CREATE PROBLEMS FOR THE RUSSIANS.

4. COMMENT: MODERATE TONE OF PRESS COMMENTARY THUS
FAR COMBINING SOME DISAPPOINTMENT WITH OPTIMISM FOR
FUTURE SUGGESTS SPECIAL BERLIN ELECTORAL PROCEDURE
IS NOT LIKELY TO STIR UP MUCH PARTISAN DEBATE IN GERMAN
DOMESTIC POLITICS, UNLESS SOVIETS WEIGH IN WITH SERIOUS
OBJECTIONS AND THESE COME TO PUBLIC LIGHT.

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